

Darcy Haugan

On the evening of April 6<sup>th</sup>, our family was irrevocably changed with the loss of our only son, Darcy Haugan. Our daughter lost her only sibling. Our loss is felt so deeply and so profoundly that it is impossible to share adequately in this forum. It is enough to say that we carry our grief with every breath that we take. There is no part of our world that has not been impacted by losing Darcy.

We know that you did not wake up that morning with the intention of harming others. Just as we did not know that when we wished our son good luck at the game that evening that it would be our last good bye.

Darcy was the kind of man who never held a grudge. He always chose to see the good in things and in people. The attitude Darcy held in life came from his deep faith in a loving and forgiving God who gave His own Son, Jesus to die and be raised to life again, so that we could be forgiven. Even though Darcy is no longer with us, we choose to honour his memory by extending the grace, compassion and forgiveness that he would have offered to you. And by doing so, we honour our ultimate example, Jesus Christ.

Forgiveness is possible when we acknowledge the wrongs that have been committed and submit ourselves to the justice and mercy offered to us by our Heavenly Father. You have acknowledged your part in this tragedy and are submitting yourself to the justice and mercy of the court system. For that we are grateful and can sincerely say that because we have been forgiven much by our Father in Heaven, we can extend that same forgiveness to you here on earth.

It is in the light of the hope and peace offered to us by Jesus that we stand here today. We pray also that you will find the hope and peace that only He can bring to us on our darkest days. And it is this hope we offer to you today. We can do this because His hope is as tremendous as it is profound. We know beyond a shadow of a doubt that Darcy is in heaven with his Saviour and that we will see him there again one day. On that day, all our tears will be wiped away and our hearts will finally be mended.

Logan Schatz



# Victim Impact Statement

Written by Bonnie Schatz (mother of Logan Schatz)

April 6<sup>th</sup> was always one of the best days of my life. We welcomed our youngest daughter into our lives. April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 was the worst nightmare of my life. Our son Logan was taken away from us.

When we arrived at the hospital in Tisdale it was like we were instantly thrown into some kind of a movie. You could feel the panic as soon as you entered. Families were guided into a meeting room and we waited. It was so not real. As hours past and still no answers, I knew it wasn't good. Hearing parents being called away to talk and then the crying, will always be in my memory. Then it happened, they called our names, my heart dropped. I didn't want to go with them. That was the moment my life changed forever.

Being that we were over 2hrs away and our kids kept phoning, I knew we couldn't tell them in person so I was forced to break the news to them over the phone before they found out by some other source. I just wanted to hold them.

As much as my own grief is unbearable, knowing my 4 kids are going through the pain of losing their brother, their friend is like putting salt on the wound. As a mother all you



want is for kids to be happy and feel no pain, and knowing I can't take that away from them is killing me.

I lost my mother a year prior to the accident. At that time it was the greatest loss I had experienced. I cried for the loss of my mother but with Logan the crying was so much more. It was a cry that I never knew existed. It hurt so much more and still does.

I'm still waiting for this pain to lift, just a little bit. I have lost all ambition to do anything. I know life will go on but how can it without Logan. Everything I see, I relate to Logan. Everything I hear, I relate to Logan. This has consumed my life. I am unable to keep my mind on my work and I feel like I am there in body but not in mind. It takes all the energy I have to keep it together during the day that I do nothing when I get home. I don't think I have had a full night's sleep since the accident. My lack of sleep doesn't help me to get through the days.

I have come to accept that Logan is gone. My heartaches when I think I will never see him again, never feel his hugs, never see his smile and never hear him tell me that he loves me. We will never know what his hard work and dedication to hockey would have



rewarded him with. We will never see him be a husband and father, that I know he would have been so great at. As much as these thoughts give me great pain it is nothing compared to the thoughts of the accident. Re-living that night over and over. Not knowing what Logan was doing minutes before, what he was thinking. These thoughts bring me a different kind of pain. A pain I would not wish on anyone.

I am thankful that this part of the nightmare will be over. I just wish and pray that my family can overcome the pain we are still feeling.